**Protect the Great Barrier Reef!**

When you go visit the Great Barrier Reef there are a number of ways in which you can help protect the Reef from destruction so that you and others can come back and visit the Reef again.

* Do not stand on the coral reefs while snorkeling. If you do this, you will kill pieces of the coral and it will no longer be there for others to come and see.
* Only snorkel in the deep water along the edges of the coral. If you snorkel in the shallow waters you might cut off bits of the coral, again causing it to die.
* Snorkel in the shallow waters only if your fins will not touch the coral. If your fins touch the coral you are very likely to break off chunks of the coral.
* Do not feed the fish. Feeding the fish will make them used to being fed over the reef and we do not want that. The fish will be fed away from the coral reefs so that there is no food covering the surface of the water. If the surface is not clear, the Reef will not be able to get sunlight for use in photosynthesis.
* Do not throw your cigarette butts overboard. This will pollute the coral reefs and cause them to die.
* Take pictures of the coral reefs but nothing else. Do not take parts of the coral reef home as a souvenir. Think about it, if everyone did that, eventually there would be no coral reef left. Only take picture.

